

Matthew David WALKER, *et al.*
Serial No. 10/501,771
August 22, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The continued rejection of claims 1 and 4-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly anticipated by Yavits '847 is respectfully traversed – as is the rejection of claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made “obvious” based on Yavits in view of King '211.

Applicants' reasons for traversal have already been given in the papers of record filed January 16, 2008, and are hereby incorporated by reference.

The Examiner is thanked for providing a “response to arguments” section at page 2 of the outstanding final action. It is hoped that the Examiner will review the further responsive comments offered below to demonstrate that, indeed, the applicants' earlier arguments should be reconsidered and found persuasive.

The Examiner alleges that the specification at page 11, line 28, “seems to describe a still image is an I-frame followed by P frames.” The Examiner's inference is clearly erroneous. A still image is a single frame. The discussion at page 11, line 28 discusses six, successive, single frames of video output from the encoder – one every n seconds. To equate a successive plurality of individual frames as a single still image is clear error.

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The Examiner appears to be arguing that, because applicants describe the output as being an IPPP sequence, therefore the claimed "still image" can be equated with IPPP, which is the same coded format used by Yavits. This is incorrect. Applicants' claims require selection and coding of individual still pictures. Yavits only codes moving pictures. The fact that the coded output signal has a similar structure is irrelevant to the point being made.

As the Examiner apparently appreciates, applicants' claims also require that certain method steps occur in response to a user request (e.g., that a user request selects a further one still image, etc.). In an attempt to find this teaching in Yavits, the Examiner relies upon paragraph 73, lines 7-9. However, this paragraph clearly does not at all teach that a user selects a single still image for further processing. Instead, at best, it simply notes that the host interface 126 provides access to the compressed data and is used to provide device 100 with uncompressed digitized video and/or audio and/or user data.

There is nothing in Yavits which teaches, for example, the claim 1 requirement that "in response to a user request which selects one of said still images, generating a first set of data representing the further image by predictively encoding the further image, wherein the predictive encoding is performed with respect to a decoded version of the first image associated with a previously generated set of data."

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In short, applicants' claimed invention fundamentally requires user selection of a still image – which is then encoded using encoding processes which are known *per se* for moving pictures, but which are not previously taught as having applicability to a captured plurality of time-elapsed still images.

Dependent claim 4 also requires that the still images be stored in a buffer for presentation for encoding at the request of a user. Claim 5 requires that the request for a further image represents a predetermined time before or after the first image. There is no such teaching or suggestion in Yavits.

Independent claim 6 requires a predictive encoder to encode a first set of data representing a first one of plural still images and to thereafter encode one or more further sets of data representing the first one of that set of still images by predictively encoding the first image wherein the predictive encoding is performed with respect to a decoded version of the first image associated with a previously generated set of data. Claim 6 also requires, in response to the apparatus receiving a user request which selects a further one of the still images, to encode a first set of data representing the further image by predictively encoding the further image, wherein predictive encoding is performed with respect to a decoded version of the first image associated with the previously generated

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set of data. Claim 6 also requires encoding one or more further sets of data representing the further image by predictively encoding the further image, wherein the predictive encoding is performed with respect to a decoded version of the further image associated with a previously generated set of data.

There is no such processing of individual still images taught or suggested in Yavits.

Claim 7 is actually directed to a video surveillance system which includes, *inter alia*, a video capture device for capturing plural images, as well as a video encoding apparatus of claim 6 for encoding the video signals received from the video capture device. Claim 7 also requires a user terminal including a video decoding device for decoding video signals received from the video encoding device and a user interface for a user to input commands to be sent to the video encoding device.

Claim 8 further requires that buffered plural images be stored for presentation for encoding at the request of a user.

Claim 9 is directed to a complementary method of decoding which again requires processing of plural still images. There is no such teaching or suggestion in Yavits.

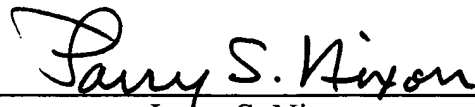
King '211 does not supply these deficiencies.

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Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and to allow this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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